

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method for providing an audiovisual e-mail system comprising:

providing a server connected to a network;

inputting a message and an audiovisual enhancement which is associated with said message from a sender into said server, said message to be sent as an e-mail to at least one recipient on said network;

associating said message with a self-executing, network downloadable programmable enhancement operative to automatically stream said audiovisual enhancement, at least in part, from said server over said network upon the opening of said e-mail and to display said audiovisual enhancement within said e-mail in conjunction with said message without the requirement of a previously installed viewer; and

sending said e-mail over said network to said at least one recipient.

Claims 2-32 (cancelled).

33. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein said audiovisual enhancement includes both audio and visual components.

34. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein said audiovisual enhancement includes only an audio component.

35. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein said audiovisual enhancement includes only a visual component.

36. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein said audiovisual enhancement includes a streaming video displayed within a window of a recipient's machine.

37. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein said audiovisual enhancement is developed on a sender's machine, and is transmitted to said server over said network.

38. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 37 wherein said network includes a TCP/IP network.

39. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 38 wherein said network includes the Internet.

40. (currently amended) Computer program segments embodied in computer readable media to provide an audiovisual e-mail system comprising:

a code segment transmitting over a network to a server an audiovisual enhancement which is associated with a message from a sender, said message to be sent as an e-mail to at least one recipient on said network; and

a code segment associating said message with a self-executing, network downloadable code segment operative to automatically stream said audiovisual enhancement, at least in

part, from said server over said network and to display said audiovisual enhancement within said e-mail in conjunction with said message upon the selection of said message by said at least one recipient without the requirement of a previously installed viewer.

41. (previously presented) Computer program segments embodied in computer readable media to provide an audiovisual e-mail system as recited in claim 40 wherein said audiovisual enhancement includes both audio and visual components.

42. (previously presented) Computer program segments embodied in computer readable media to provide an audiovisual e-mail system as recited in claim 40 wherein said audiovisual enhancement includes only an audio component.

43. (previously presented) Computer program segments embodied in computer readable media to provide an audiovisual e-mail system as recited in claim 40 wherein said audiovisual enhancement includes only a visual component.

44. (previously presented) Computer program segments embodied in computer readable media to provide an audiovisual e-mail system as recited in claim 40 wherein said audiovisual enhancement includes a streaming video displayed within a window of said recipient's machine.

45. (previously presented) Computer program segments embodied in computer readable media to provide an audiovisual e-mail system as recited in claim 40 wherein said audiovisual enhancement is developed on a sender's machine.

46. (previously presented) An audiovisual e-mail system comprising:

means transmitting over a network to a server from a sender machine an audiovisual enhancement which is associated with a message from said sender, said message to be sent as an e-mail to at least one recipient on said network; and

means associating said message with a self-executing program operative to stream said audiovisual enhancement, at least in part, from said server over said network and to display said audiovisual enhancement in conjunction with said message on a recipient machine upon the selection of said message by said at least one recipient.

47. (previously presented) An audiovisual e-mail system as recited in claim 46 wherein said audiovisual enhancement includes both audio and visual components.

48. (previously presented) An audiovisual e-mail system as recited in claim 46 wherein said audiovisual enhancement includes only an audio component.

49. (previously presented) An audiovisual e-mail system as recited in claim 46 wherein said audiovisual enhancement includes only a visual component.

50. (previously presented) An audiovisual e-mail system as recited in claim 46 wherein said audiovisual enhancement includes a streaming video displayed within a window of said recipient's machine.

51. (previously presented) An audiovisual e-mail system as recited in claim 46 wherein said audiovisual enhancement is developed on said sender's machine.

52-60. (canceled)

61. (currently amended) A method for providing active e-mail comprising:

~~receiving generating a sender e-mail text from a sender; associating said e-mail text with a code segment; including a code segment in said e-mail to cause a self-executing, transient code segment to automatically download over a network and execute within a context of said e-mail upon an opening of said e-mail; and~~

~~sending said code segment to a recipient in a body of an e-mail to a recipient.~~

62. (previously presented) An e-mail server comprising a computer configured to receive e-mail text from a sender, to associate said e-mail text with a code segment and to send said code segment to a recipient in a body of an e-mail.

63. (previously presented) A computer program embodied on computer-readable media for providing active e-mail comprising:

software segments receiving e-mail text from a sender;

software segments associating said e-mail text with a code segment; and

software segments sending said code segment to a recipient in a body of an e-mail.

64. (currently amended) A method for providing e-mail comprising:

providing a link between an open e-mail on a recipient computer and a stored audio and/or video file not on said recipient computer; and

streaming said audio and/or video file to said recipient computer for display within said open e-mail in such a manner that other content of said e-mail which is intended to be viewed is not visually obscured.

65. (currently amended) A computer program embodied on computer-readable media for providing e-mail comprising:

software segments providing a link between an open e-mail on a recipient computer and a stored audio and/or video file not on said recipient computer; and

software segments streaming said audio and/or video file to said recipient computer for display within said open e-mail in such a manner that other content of said e-mail which is intended to be viewed is not visually obscured.

66-83. (canceled)

84. (currently amended) A method for enhancing an e-mail comprising:

enhancing an e-mail with an HTML code segment; and

reviewing the enhancement of said e-mail by executing said HTML code segment prior to sending said e-mail.

85. (currently amended) An e-mail server comprising a computer configured to enhance an e-mail with an HTML code segment and to permit the review the enhancement of said e-mail by executing said HTML code segment prior to sending said e-mail.

86. (currently amended) A computer program embodied on computer-readable media for enhancing an e-mail comprising:

software segments for enhancing an e-mail with an HTML code segment; and

software segments for reviewing the enhancement of said e-mail by executing said HTML code segment prior to sending said e-mail.

87-98. (canceled)